

BUSINESS AND PRODUCT NEWS

Builders Lower Cost While Improving Thermal Performance With DOW Structural Insulated Sheathing

David Gordon, Poirier Homes wanted to try Dow's new Structural Insulated Sheathing on a West Hartford remodel because it would be helpful in getting the home NAHB Green and Energy Star certified.

"There were some really good things we liked about the SIS product, like the R-5.5 value of the sheathing, and the fact that we did not have to Tyvek the house. We also liked the window pan system that keeps water from getting into the house, and it was very easy to tape the seams and around the windows. It was an excellent system for keeping moisture out of the house. Joe was there anytime we had an issue, and in making sure we were using the product like it was designed. Overall, we were pleased with the SIS product."



The original 1942 West Hartford house had oil heat, an electric water heater, single paned windows and very little insulation in the walls. The remodeled house is 3,200 square feet with new sheet metal insulated duct work, that is sealed with mastic to prevent air leakage. Exterior walls are DOW SIS sheathing. For insulation, the attic has R-50 blown in fiberglass, the walls are R-21 plus R-5.5 for the SIS panels, and the basement ceiling is R-19. David Gordon installed a 95% efficacy natural gas hydro air boiler, an indirect 95% efficient natural gas heater, and the home is NAHB Green and Energy Star certified.

"I really enjoy working with DOW rep., Joe Barrow," said David. "DOW products have been helpful in maximizing the efficiency of another house we are building for the Zero Energy Challenge."



Joe Barrow recently made a presentation at T&M Building Company. As a result of that meeting, T&M decided that for the same price to the buyer, their customers will be offered a choice of 2x6 construction with R-19 fiberglass batts in the wall cavities and OSB sheathing or 2x4 construction with R-13 fiberglass batts in the cavities and DOW insulated sheathing (R - 5.5).

"One advantage of the DOW sheathing is that the customer now has a continuous blanket of insulation wrapped around his house rather than just having insulation in the wall cavities," said Steve Temkin. "For the builder using DOW sheathing eliminates the need to use any house wrap."

To reduce the cost of using DOW sheathing Joe Barrow analyzed a house plan and determined which areas need structural sheathing. This was typically the corners of the house. In the other areas lower cost Dow non-structural sheathing can be used. On the insulated walls of the garage and gable ends of the attic OSB sheathing can be used. Joe Barrow offered to talk with interested buyers to explain the benefits of picking Dow for their house.

Efficient Use of Time, Material and Labor

As a streamlined solution, STYROFOAM SIS™ Brand Structural Insulated Sheathing is easy and quick to install. With **one less trip around the house, builders can lower costs while improving thermal performance.** The lightweight panels are simple to work with – 1/2" & 1" boards are just one-third the weight of oriented strand board

Earn Extra Credit

For a limited time, you may qualify for a tax break when you use STYROFOAM SIS™ Brand Structural Insulated Sheathing. Tax credit incentives initiated by the U.S. Energy Policy Act of 2005 have been extended for builders who use energy-efficient building materials and products.